## SOCIALISM.

THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN EUROPE.

Agitation Taking New Forms in France The Success of the Great Omnibus Strike Inspires Strikes Among Hair Dressers, Walters, Bakers, Butchers, Domestics, Lady Cashiers, and Seamstresses-The Brussels Convention to Try to Revive the Old International-Quiet Elsewhere-The Work Goes On.

Pants, July 7 .- The social question invades ns and absorbs us more and more, although it has not at the present moment that aspect of violence which it had in the month of May last. calm that came about more rapidly than one might expect has followed the fermentation which was produced at that time in nearly all the countries of Europe, and which for several of them looked like the beginning of a serious crisis. Spain and Italy, which commenced the campaign with genuine Southern energy, have now relansed into profound repose. Belgium. after having been on the eve of a general strike of the workers in her principal industries, is now no longer troubled by anything beyond those disturbances. Which have become chronic in the mining regions. many the Socialistic party, which seemed likely to capture the entire country, has into an impotence rendered still more complete by internal dissensions. The utter failure of the twenty-seven strikes. anocessively tried without any other result than an increase of suffering among the working classes, has brought about the discouragement and misun terstanding which follow disappointment. For the present at least, German Socialism has lost much of that cohesion and discipline which gave it such nowerful resistance during the regime of coercion introduced by Bismarck, and which enabled it to grow in spite of all obstacles.

England, that classic land of strikes, has this time not even been heard from. For the last lew days the corn porters in the Irish ports have manifested some disposition to suspend work. which might become troublesome if, as it was feared, the railroad workmen should jo n them. The general appearance of the situation has, therefore, on the surface a cooled-down char-noter, such as might easily deceive a superficial bserver. But under this pencable outside appearance the work of union and organization goes on more actively than ever among the popular classes. A decisive effort is now in preparation, with a view to realizing the universal league of socialism, by resuscitatlug, on an infinitely more solid basis, the Inter national of twenty-five years ago.

The date of the Congress at which this coalition is to be brought about has just been offi-cially fixed by the Directing Committee. On the 18th of August next, delegates of the artisuns of the entire world will assemble in Brussels. The circular calling the Congress announces that it is the intention to form a vast association free to men of all trades an I all national-Ities. A permanent committee will be formed to serve as the organ of their grievances and to be ever ready to champion their demands. The first care of this commission will be to take the census of the universal working classes and to establish annually a system of regular correspondence in all countries. The plan seems to be too vast to be realized in a hurry. As has been recently shown in the case of the International Congress of practical results seldom from any but restricted conditions limited to the representatives of a single trade, or of a small number of altied industries with similar interests and somewhat identical ideas. Too much diversity in the elements which will find thomselves in juxtaposition in the Brussel's Congress must exclude in advance the possibility of precise and direct resolutions in regard to any special act. The promoters will in vain give assurance that all the measpres and precautions for internal order and atrict parliamentary proceedings will be taken In order to guarantee regularity and discipline during the debates. Confusion must inevitably arise in these debates when they wander away and become lost in details. The line of argument must be broken in the tangles produced by the mixture of so many languages. That is the rock which the chiefs of this manifestation will have to guard against in the effort to keep the assembly within the circle of general declarations. The essential for them is to obtain a new affirmation of the solidarity of the corporations of workmen, and their adhesion crowd have not been clearly defined. The to the principle of community of action in the future. No doubt, in this matter they will claim very precisely, but they were manimous second in extending and strengthening the league which was formed two years ago. The want of better, they loudly deman led the supcare of deciding how this league must work in the struggle between capital and labor will be left to circumstances. The true programme of the Congress will therefore be to conserrate by a new sanction the designation of the first of May as a universal holiday, and to fly a day's work at the uniform length of eight hours. In appearance this will only be the repetition of the platform already accepted in many countries. The meeting at Brussels, therefore, can only make this platform the official rallying cry of a federation contralized in the hands of an executive committee. The establishment of this committee is the principal point, because, ones installed, it is from it that all impulsion and all orders must come. Whatever incidents may arise in the course of the session, the installation of this directing committee will be the principal aim to be obtained, the great object in view. In its creation and in its working the importance of the meeting in August must reside. It is destined to give, so to say, a body to the International idea and to prepare in the social question an evolution which must outstrip in its conse

11. An almost complete cessation of strikes is remarked in France, as well as everywhere else. The few that occur here and there are isolated and determined by local causes only. Being attached to no general movement, they attract but little attention, and they begin and end noiselessly. But the agitation has extended during the past few weeks to a sphere which has been exempt from it up to the present, and which one might reasonably expect would always escape it. The fashion of threatening to quit work has extended to the trades belonging especially to city life. In this new movement the consequences to be dreaded are not the same as those which we find in the atrikes of miners and workers in factories; but they are none the less grave. We have just had a foretaste of them in the recent porturba tion which several great cities, and particularly Paris, have had to suffer. This is a new shase, and one altogether unexpected, in ployed. The starting point was the conbetween the great omnibus companies of Paris and their drivers, receivers, conductors. &c. The difficulty was of old date and had for its principal object the length of a day's work, which in reality was excessive. extending in some cases to seventeen hours. As their individual demands were anattended to, the employees decided to adopt the system of other working corporations. Bo they formed a syndicate charged with th duty of representing them collectively, to speak and negotiate in the name of all. and, if necessary, to form the resolutious which they might judge opportune to overcome the resistance of the com-The syndicate formed rapidly. It enrolled in its ranks almost all the personnel of the enterprise, and demanded of the Council of the Administration an interview for the purpose of submitting and discussing the grievances of which it was the interpreter. To this demand the President replied by a haughty and rather stupid letter. in which he declared that he did not recognize the syndicate and refused categorically to have any communica tion whatever with its members. That was a prompt refusal of all claims without any ex-

queroes all that we have seen up to the present.

which gives to all corporations of employees and employers alike the right to form syndicates and to delegate to a committee of their own choice the mission of representing them. By this simple act this letter put the company in the wrong, and at the same time it rendered doubly interesting in the eyes of the population the cause of the laborers. which everybody recognized as just. Feeling that they had public sentiment with them. the omnibus drivers and their comrades hesi-tated no longer. At a night meeting they resolved to go on strike, and when morning arrived Paris woke up without its omnibuses. The aspect of our streets, deprived of the aprearance of these popular vehicles, and encumbered by crowds of wandering redestrians, had something of the picturesque in it; but the sudden cossation of a transport service so essential, and which the Parisians were so long accustomed to, was none the less a serious inconvenience for the inhabitants. The greatest annoyance caused by it was felt by people in humble stations, clerks and the like, who, on account of the high rents in the centre of the town, are obliged to live far away from their business places. Such a state of things could not possibly be prolonged. For two the company still tried to resist and to re stablish the circulation, one way or another, of the omnibuses with a personnel recruited right and left. The strikers opposed the starting of the 'buses. The few that succeeded in getting out had their horses unhitched in the middle of the street, in the pres ence of crowds who had cheered and assisted in the work. The police, on the other hand, simply did just what was necessary to prevent too much disorder. An appeal on the part of the directors to the Minister of the Interior only served to make them understand that the Government also considered them in the wrong, and put upon them the responsibility for the confusion which was brought upon the town. Feeing that everybody was against them and acknowledging their error too late, the directors were obliged to capitalate, and remosted the President of the Municipal Council to become the mediator between them and their employees. The result was full and complete satisfaction given to the strikers upon all points, commercing with the reduction of a day's work to twelve hours. This prompt and complete success was the

cause of a half dozen strikes of a similar kind. At Lyons, Bordeaux, and Marseilles the omnihas companies and the tramway companies suffered the same inte as that of the companies in l'aris, and were obliged to make concessions to their employees. This imitation extended even to London, notwithstanding the fact that our neighbors are more accustomed in the matter of strikes to give us an example than to receive one. There also the companies were obliged to yield. The suppression of the service of public vehicles outails such consequences in great cities that only one thing can be thought of, and that is the refstab ishment of circulation as quickly as possible and at any cost. This strike, therefore, won the battle all alon; the line almost in a few hours, on account of the embarrassment caused by the cossation of work and the impossibility in which the companies found themselves to dispense with the services of their employees. It is only proper to add that the claims were just and well founded. The trade of an omnibus driver is, beyond contradiction, one of the hardest in existence, and the amount of daily work exacted from him by his company was positively abusive. The omnibus drivers only asked for and obtained justice; and if all strikes had motives so clearly legitimate they would meet with the same public sentiment which facilitated the victory of the drivers over the companies.

But the movement did not stop there. A crowd of honest people, who up to that time had remained tranquil and appeared to be content with their fate, began suddenly to have a taste for improvements. They reflected that they, too, played a part in the daily life of society; that when it pleased them to cease the performance of their duties they might create an embarrassment no less great than toat which the ounibus drivers had brought about; and, consequently, they imagined that they had an opportunity at the present time to present their claims. First came the hair dressers, who refused to shave or cut hair after 8 or 9 o'clock in the evening. Then came the grocers' employees, who refused to sell coffee or sugar except between the hours of 8 o'clock in the morning and 8 o'clock in the evening. Benind them came the drug clerks, hotel waiters, bakers, butchers, cooks, confectioners, and others. The demands of this last greater portion of them did not specify any pression of the intelligence offices. They declared that the syndicates of each corporation should have the exclusive right of mediating botween employees and employers.

This is a characteristic sign of the mania for reform a outrance which is manifesting itself more and more earnestly among our Socialists. They do not appear to understand that to make appeals for the intervention of the Government in all sorts of things is to run counter to the doctrines of liberty which form the basis of their creeds, and which have been the instrument of their successive victories over the old order of things. In the matter of the intelligence offices, in particular, the demand for their abolishment by law is just as filogical as it is useless. Those whom the business of the place-finders offends and who think that they have reason to complain of it, have within their reach a direct and very simule means of annihilating b, without recurring to legislative prohibition. All they have to do is to stop all communication with such offices whose existence depends solely upon their customers. They would be auddenly obliged to close their doors, if the customers refuse to come. That is just the observation that the Minister of the Interior made to a delegation who came to him with demand for the immediate closing of all the

intelligence offices. Another reflection ought to arrest those who make this claim, and that is that it would end in creating for the profit of corporations a monopoly which would be the cause of far more opposition than is now offered to the intelligence offices. Syndicates have been and atill are although they may be abused a little, an excellent thing for the concentrations of the efforts of the ware workers and for en-abling them to make demands upon their patrons which, if made individually, would run the risk of never being listened to. But it is time to take care not to fail into the abuse of a good thing and not to substitute one tyranny for another by enlarging beyond measure the powers of the syndicates. Those who have already shown a tendency for too much agitation of this question would finish by leading us to the very opposite of free labor. We can see this in what is now going on to prohibit from all access to the workshops those workmen whe refuse to take part in strikes; to force employers to employ only members belonging to a syndicate: to insist that they must re-mploy the men whom they judged proper to diamiss; to impose the dismissal of others, and to oppose em-ployment of women. All this is manifestly excessive and contrary to liberty of action; and nevertheless the syndicates make these demands every day, and seem to consider them as their natural right. Some even go further than that, and claim to refuse the taking of apprentices except on the condition that they belong to the families of members of the syndicates. A few steps more in this way and we would seen be brought back to the close corporations of the old regime, which it was one of the first cares and one of the first glories of the French republic to abolish. To confer upon people animated by such a spirit of invasion the exclusive privilege of intermediating between employers and employed would be

to give up to them the entire labor market. But it is a waste of time at present to make such observations, however just they may be, Those interested see only the present inconvenience, with an troubling themselves with the question whether the cure is not werse amination. It was also contrary to the law, I than the disease. We continue to be a reorie

of hasty conclusions, as a Senator recently said. For that reason, we have to recommence our solutions too often. However this may be. the fever of making demands has taken on the character and expansion of an epidemic which is gaining ground, especially in Paris. After the bair-dressers, the grocers, the bakers, &c., it has declared itself among the domestic servants, the lady cashiers, and seamstresses. Although the connection of interests between so many different trades is not very apparent. their delegates have met together in an assembly in which there were twentyone associations represented. After hav-ing carried by acclamation the resolution to make common cause in the matter of demands, they formed a general committee on food-supply, with power to represent their entire body. They even discussed the project of sending a circular to all like corporations in France, inviting them to join the movement. This proposition was adjourned, but not abandoned and if the arder which reigns at present continues, we may expect to see the reappearance one of these days of the programme for a league embracing the whole territory. In reality, when it came to pass from words to action, the associated groups displayed but little enthusiasm. The greater portion considered that they were about to be brought further away from where they intended to go. The bakers who wished to give the signal for a strike, found themselves about lutely alone, and were only able to give to their abortive attempt an appearance of execution.

Never heless, the spirit of going ahead by means of strikes, and the ideas of coalition are still advancing and becoming more general-ized. We find them extending out-ide of the working classes, properly speaking; for the class of agitators who have now come upon the scene are entirely distinct from the workers of the mine and the factories. They have not the same hard labor nor the same latigue which wears out a man before his time, neither have they the same risks of want of work or the same dangers of accidents and sickness. Even the method of payment is different since most of these new strikers are paid by the mouth oftener than by the day.

111.

At the bottom of the turbulent discontent

which has been manifested for a lew weeks past, there is, therefore, the tendency to follow an example, and the desire which some individuals display for making a great noise while playing the part of leaders. Agitations of this kind are never without peril in their consequences, oven when they are somewhat artificial at the beginning. We have just

tations of this kind are never without peril in their consequences, even when they are somewhat artificial at the boginning. We have just seen how little it takes to introduce profound trouble in the daily life of a great city, and to bring about immense difficutios such as one never before thought of. The attempted strike of the bakers, of which I have just spoken, came almost to nothing: a few establishments left without lifes, a few crowds and some pushing. However short and I mited it was it furnished an opportunity to get a glimpee at what fars might become if deprived of the millions of kilograms of bread that it needs every day to satisfy life appetite. To guard at all hazards the capital against the teril of such a familie, the Government has put the bakerles of the army and the navy under a requisition. But we would not have such a resource if we had to deal with a sudden storpage of the meat supply, the closing of a portion of the restaurants and hotels, and the refusal of the services of the numerous employees that under various titles form the indispensable auxiliary o small trading and of bourgeois existence. During the two days' confusion which was occasioned by the strike of the output and the emotion that was caused in the population by the simple threat of the strike of the bakers, a number of tendes obtained a reveiation of their strength. They measured how easy it would be for them to become masters of the situation and to dietate their conditions by suspending suddenly their regular functions. This perspective of bringing about what they wished is too seductive not to arouse the temptation to imitate the tacties that succeeded so quickly and so well with the employees of the omnibus companies, considering the evergrowing power of syndicates and the passive obedience that they meet with from the individuals whom they command, a multiplication of strikes in towns becomes more and more probable. The citizen may consider himself orewarned that he will have like other to develop in this sense, it

though they know all that, although they are conviced that the best pan is to loave to the nartes them selves the care of inding the best transaction applicable to each particular circumstance, the members of the flowerment are about to throw legislative action across the parh of likery. No doubt they are arried to appear the members of the flowerment are about to throw legislative action across the parh of likery. No doubt they are arried to appear the action across the parh of likery. No doubt they are arried to appear they are actions of electoral popularity which should in real ty be thrown aside in such matters. For fear of being accused of doing nothing, the Government and the deputies want to do too much.

A law regulating the work of women and children is all well enough, since laws of the same kind exist in pretty northy all countries: there cannot be immovable rules anothing in discriminately to all situations of porsons and there cannot be immovable rules anothing indimities. It is good enough too, to have another law for distributing and fixing responsibilities in cases of accident, although that law reaches the question in aconfused and very incomplete manner, leaving the doors open for many objections. But what has been called it is proposed, for example, to give a workshops in the State. There is tak of eatablishing not only a uniform length for a day's labor, but a minimum rate of salaries beyond which employers cannot go; and this can have no other result than to oblige them to closs their to complet the chiefs of industries to give a more than the discharged a man. A vast project has just been prosented with a view of creating for the workshops of the State. There is tak of eatablishing not only a uniform length for a day's the chamiltoned to the Sea and the part of the workshop and the salaries by an equal eubsidy paid by amore sealing the salaries of industries to give a man account of their motive cach time that they discharged a man. A vast project has laboration and their salaries and the

POLITICAL HISTORY.

LINCOLN'S NOMINATION IN CHICAGO IN 1860. A Letter from Leonard Swett Describing the Preparations, Combinations, and the Circumstances of Its Accomplishment.

From the Portland Evening Express.

While the letter from Leonard Swett, of which the enclosed is a copy, was a parsonal letter, written with out any expectation that it would ever be published, so many to whom I have read it have urged me to publish it, that I saked Mr. Swett in his lifetime if I might do so. I e replied. "If you think it is worth publishing I have no objection to your doing so when the right time comes." I understood that it should not be published during ha life; but, in any event. I think the right time" has come, and I place it at your disposal.

JOSIAN II, DEURMONO.

The Han, J. H. Drummond.

My DEAN FRIEND: I have been intending.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., May 27, 1860.

for a long time, to write you, but my private husiness added to the interest I have, of late, taken in politics, has prevented me. The Chicago Convention is, with us, the great event and the nomination of Lincoln is to his friends a matter of great satisfaction. His nomination, under the circumstances, is very remarkable. I don't know whother you are

pleased or not, but I am gratified enough to

satisfy any two men and if you are displeased I will transfer some of my great joy to you. I made the acquaintance of Mr. Lincoln early in the year 1849. Since then we have, twice a year, travelled over five counties, spending together most of the time from September until January and from March until June inclusive. Originally most of the lawyers did this, but interly one by one they have abandened the circuit, and for perhaps five years Lincoln and myself have been the only ones who have habitually passed over the whole circuit. It seems to me, I have tried 10,0.0 law suits with or against him. I know him as intimately as I have ever known any man in my life, perhaps more intimately

I was with him the wook before the Conven tion. In speaking of the propriety of his going to it he said he was almost too much of a can-didate to go, and not quite enough to stay at

if pos-ible, than I knew you when I left Water-

ion. In speaking of the propriety of hisgoing to the said he was almost too much of a candidate to go, and not quite enough to stay at home."

Our delegation was instructed for him, but of the twenty-two votes in it, by incautiously selecting the men, there were eight who would gladly have gone for Seward. The reason of this is in this lact: The northern counties of this is in this lact: The northern counties of this is the this lact: The northern counties of this is the nore overwhelmingly Republican than any other portion of the continent. I could pick twenty-live configuous counties giving larger Republican manofiles than any other adjacent counties in any State. The result is, many people there are for Seward, and such men had crept mon the delegation. They intended in good faith to go for Lincoln, but taked despondingly and really wanted and expocted anally to voce as I have indicated We had also in the North and about Chicago, a class of men who always want to turn up on the winning side, an I would do no work, although their feelings were really for us for rear it would be the losing element, and would place them out of favor with the incoming power. These men were dead well his. The centre and South, with many individual exceptions to the classes I have named, were warmly for Lincoln, waether he won or lost. The lawyers of our circuit went there determined to leave no stone unturned, and really they added by some of our State others and half dozon men from various portions of the State, were the outly tireless, slepless, unwavering, and ever-vigitant friends he had. The first thing after getting our headquatters was to have the delegation proper invite the coperation of outsiders as though they were delegates. Thus we began. The lirst state amonocaled was indiana. She was about equally divided between Bates and McLean. Saturday, Sunday, and Monday were spent upon her, when finally she came to us unitedly with twenty-six votes, and from that time acted efficiently with us.

Seward came there with the cop Garmany by History which the whole the property of the composition of

store at Salem in Sangamon county. His partner in that business soon insisted upon the introduction of whiskey as part of their stock. At this Lincoln rebelled, and sold out for pay \$1,100, the firm debts. About this time, the Black Hawk war broke out and Lincoln volunteered. When the company came to choose officers, a Major of some military eretonsions, who came doly accounted to the company, declared himself a can idate for Cautain. The boys insisted that they were going to have Lincoln. The mode of election was then for the company to form a line and the candidates to march in front, and as many as wished to vote for him formed behind him, and the man who could attach to himself it longest string of men was elected. When the word was given Lincoln a friends selved hold of him, as he had been declining, for ed him shead, and when the count was made he had two the most. He took charge of the comeany and left with them for the upper Mississipp, the scene of the fight. A well authenticated anecdore occurred there limitrating the character of the man.

After Stilman's defeat (in which Lincoln's company was not engaged all the troots became patherstricken and liable to stampede. As his company with others were marching they became suddenly alarmed by an overwholmingly large force of Indians. Lincoln harpened at the moment to be riding a horse holonging to another man. The chances were that all the foolmen would be murdered, but instead of making his escape, he hunted up the owner of the horse, and took his chances on foot. After his return he found his whiskey larter had been his own bost customer, and had run of leaving the thin the himself, single force of Indians. Lincoln harper had been his own bost customer, and had run of leaving the thin the harbest of particles of the market of making his escape, he hunted up the owner of the horse and took his chances on foot.

After his return he found his whiskey larter had been his own bost customer, and had run of leaving the thin the his other nearly of the law. He w

## BOTCHING THE ELECTION DI TRICTS Lots of Trouble Caused by the Interference of the Reformers.

Since the reformers took hold of the bust ness of voting, and invaded the Albany legislative halls with their plans and specification for altering the system of balloting, a revision of election districts in New York city has come to be an annual occurrence. Prior to the year 1888 the law provided that where, for two years consecutively, the total registration in any of the existing election districts of New York excoeded four hundred, the Police Commission ers were empowered to divide such district into two. This provision well served the convenience of the voters, and it left the other districts intact as before. The new ballot law advocated by the reformers substituted for this, however, an entirely new plan whereby the Chief of the Bureau of Elections was compelled last year to make a complete revision of the city, and, irrespective of geographical claims, to so divide the districts that each would have a total vote of 300, as near as that total could be computed in advance. One result of the matter was that instead of each election district including a square block or several square blocks, diagonal lines were run, separating the districts in such fashion that the resident of a house might have to vote at one polling place and the resident of the house next door at another polling place, perhaps some distance away. This fully compiled with the law, but it imposed serious annoyances upon many electors, as residents of a sparsely populated part of town were compelled to travel longer distances than before to vote. A single district will well serve as an exam

A single district will won serve as an example of this change. The boundaries of the Second Election district of the First A-sembly began at Coenties slip and extended along the river eight blocks to Mailden lane, thence to Fearl street, and along one side of Fearl three blocks to Wall street at Broadway, through Broadway to Whitehall street, along Whitehall to Benver, through Beaver two blocks to Broad, through Broad two blocks to Stone street, one block along Stone street to Coenties slip, and thence to the point of starting. The entire vote in this grotesque district was but 214 last year, and, ensequently, under the provisions of the law as the reformers have made it, it would be necessary this year for the Chief of the Bureau of Elections to throw out in the Wall street neighborhood another drag-net for voters, so that the total might, by the addition of newly added territory, be raised to the full quota of 390. Where, too, the vote in a clossly compacted district was more than 300 last year the duty of the Election Bureau required the chorong off of a sufficient number of houses to bring the district within the limits, at the same time adding the residents of the houses so chound off to sanoth redistrict. The last Legi-lature altered the law somewhat, and in an enlightened and progressive shirt, by raising the number of voters necessary for an election district to 400. The Board of Police at a recent meeting brought down the number to 340, and on that basis the city has been reapportioned, though there appears to be no way of entirely goiting away from the compileation caused by the interference of the ple of this change. The boundaries of the

sary for an election district to 400. The Board of Police at a recent meeting brought down the number to 340, and on that hasis the city has been reapportioned, though there appears to be no way of entirely getting away from the complication caused by the interference of the reformers, whose ignorance of the matter is primarily at fault, and has caused and will continue to cause no end of annoyance to the voters, who have this year again, not only the boundaries, but also the numbers of their districts changed. With the change of numbers comes also the fact that there is a change in the polyling places, and, of course, of registry places as well. Those districts where the population is souttered have been enlarged so as to get up to the 340 lmit, and incidentally the number of election districts in the lower part of the city has had to be cut down. The First Assembly district runs from the Battery to Canal street on the west side of Broadway, and from the Battery to Spruce street on the east side. There are many stores, offices, and warehouses within it is boundaries, and consequently the population is much scattered. In the election of 1883 there were twenty-nine politing places in this district.

Last year, under the operation of the law favored by the reformers, the number of politing places in the First was cut down to twenty-four, and this year there is a further cut of five, so that in this entire district there will be this year but mineteen polling places for every twenty-six acres of five, so that in this entire district there will be this year but mineteen polling places in the First was cut down to twenty-four, and this year there is a further cut of five, so that in this entire district there will be this year and among a class of volersenged for the most part in productive industrial pursuits, is about as primitive an arrangement as might be expected in the marter. He cannow ances caused by the acts of the reformers, and much confusion may be expected when registry and voling begins.

Liet your it

## HUMAN BONES IN A WEIRD PLACE. The Mystery of Spook Kill in the Pictur-

KINGSTON, July 25,-The discovery of a heap of human bones in the southern part of the town of Rochester, in the Shawangunk Mountains, is causing considerable excitement among the huckleberry pickers, and has aroused the curiosity of the country folk for miles around. "Jim Hank" Bunton and one licothe, two renowned mountaineers, while scarching for huckleberries passed through a germs locally known as "Dismai Hollow." through which a small stream called the Spook Kill wanders to swell the forming waters of the Upper Saunders Kill. Something like a haif mile up this gorge, and not far from "Dark Hole." rises an over-hanning precipice noward of 150 feet in height. From the top of this ledge, through depending curtains of moss, trickles a small stream of water. At the base of this ledge is great broken and lagged rocks concealed by a thick growth of shrubbery and nettles, over which hang a sepunchral atmosphere. The most daring mountaineers seldom find occasion to visit this wild and gloomy gorge. It has been thought to be haunted. There a c many mysteries connected with it. Belated huxkleberry nickers for years claim to have heard muffled grouns rise up from those dismal doths, and bine lights have been seen flekering and hovering about the base of the seal shall boothe and Bunton stambled on a hear of human bones, grinning skulls fractured as if by stones and clubs, broken arm and thigh bones, and skeletons of leet and hands protruding from between cracks and crevices. The bones are in different stages of decomposition. Many theories are rife c neering these bones. How they came there up one seems to know. That thing like a half mile up this gorge, and theories are rife concerning these bones. How they came there uo one seems to know. That they are bones of murdered human beings uo one doubts. Efforts will be made to unravel the mystery, which promises to equal anything in the past history of the mountains. RUSSIAN NEWS AND VIEWS.

The old-fashioned Russian wagon driver (tchoo ho carried passengers and freight long distances in his rude self-contrived vehicle, is still competing suc-cessfully with the steam horse in the land of the White Came. A merchant of sinferopoi has recently for-warded a large shipment of salted meat to Poltava by tchoomaks paring them 48 kopecks per pood (38 Eng-lish pounds) for transportation. The same freight would cost him #2 kopecks per pood if he had sent it by railroad. Reside the expense of 14 kopecks per pood. he merchant saved coming into contact with the railroad officials, whose manners are sometimes annoying

which has been the cause of great apprehension for the last few years. Notely, a weekly journal of St. Peters-burg, says: "This is but one of the symptoms of a threatening ovil the dire consequences of which can hardly be estimated at the present time. The whole Russian territory is dryinging very rapidly. Not only the rivers but the inland seas and lakes are also becomling shallower and narrower. The humidity of the soil is by a considerable percentage less now than it was but a few years ago. The subnerranean waters appear to be retiring so that in many pieces all over the empire old wells yield to water unless song several feet deeper than before, while artesian wells require more power to be made effective. The climate is changing accordingly and assuming the character of the Asiatic deserts. The mean temperature in the summer has risen three degrees; Reaumur, and that of the winter has failen in the same proportion. Immense areas of quicksands have formed in many places, and are is a curious round target on it to distinguish it steadily encroaching upon the Agricultural soit. We have veritable sand deserts now in the interior of flus-sia. The character of our steppes has been changed by the formation of deep ravines. The faths and the flora of the whole country have markedly deteriorated. The rous of productive soil has moved southward and its productiveness has greatly diminished. Finally locusts and destructive insects of many descriptions have set tied permanently in our best agricultural districts and dryness and wool fires steadily destroy our vegetation.

The question of introducing the study of living Oriental languages into the commercial schools is being discussed. It is believed that the ignorance of such languages is one of the principal reasons why Russian traders cannot successfully compete with English and German traders in the markets of Persia. China, and Japan. It is thought that if Russian manufacturers and exporters will have in the Asiatic countries agents like those of their English and German competitors well versed in the languages and manners of the Orientals they will soon take the lead there.

The Commission appointed by the Government to rerise the laws relating to foreigners in Russia, has just published the results of their investigation about the influx and emigration of non-liusaists. It appears that there is a yearly influx of 800,000 foreigners into the land of the Czar. Between 1872 and 1882, 0.428,132 natives of foreign lands came into Russia, and 8,025,198 emigrated again, thus 1.432,031 foreigners remained in the country those ten years. Between 1870 and 1881, 2,200,075 foreigners came to Russia for a lengthy sojourn, and 1,800,218 left the country. Of the immi grants during the ten years 4.871.571 were Ger-mans, 1,305.133 Austrians, 255,207 Persians, 122.771 Frenchmen, 70.887 Turks, 41.878 Roumanians, Ruigarians, and Serbe: 23,601 Englishmen, 17,336 Italiana, 14,885 Greeks, and 120,038 persons of various other nationalities. Among the for-eigners who emigrated from Russia were 3,465, 300 Germans, 1,042,374 Austrians, 102,703 Frenchmen, while the emigration of Englishmen. Persians and persons of other nationalities was almost equal to their immigration. The influx and exodus of foreigners for the last ten years were much less than in the previous decade, but their exact numbers are not given. It is of interest to notice that the Germans congregate in St. Petersburg, Rerel, Moscow, Nizhnee-Novgorod, and Raronsk: I renchmen settle in St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kiev, and Odessa; Austrians stop in Kamenitz-Podolsk Volhynia, Kiev, and in the cities on the Vistnia; the Greeks, Turks, and Italians prefer Odessa, the cities of the Crimean peninsula, and Caucasta; Englishmen so journ in the port towns, and Americans mostly in St. l'etersburg and Odessa.

The Ministries of the Interior and Pinance have sent a circular to all the Governors and the Communal Councils of the interior, demanding estimates of the amount of grain needed for winter seeds and for the sustenance of the peasantry of their respective dis-tricts for the ensuing agricultural year. The estimates must be accompanied by exact accounts of the grains still preserved in the communal stores and the probable yields of the standing crops. There is a strong movement to prohibit the expertation of grain to foreign lands until next spring.

The Alexandrovsky and Pootilovsky fron foundrie and steel rolling mills cannot prepare all the materials required for the new vessels for the Russian navy. Large orders must be given to foreign foundries. In order to obviate this difficulty the Ministry of the Navy has adopted a plan for the enlargement of its steel roll-ing mills in Kolpsone, and work on it has already commenced. According to the plan, the milis will be able to turn out daily 400,000) poods of steel plates for the new irono ada. The ore for these plates will be supplied from the Government mines.

The Spanish and Portuguese Governments have not fied the Russian Government that at the expiration of the present term they will discontinue their commer-cial treaties with Russia. The Spanish treaty expires June 30 and the Portuguess on Feb. 0, 1802. At about the same time the commercial treaties between Russia and the other Governments of Western Europe will ex-pire. The Ministry of Finance is at work planning new treaties with a view of guarding the interests of the Russian trade in Europe.

the Agricultural Departments of the Ministries of Imperial Property and of the Interior to promote the cul-tivation of jute in the watered regions of the empire. At present that article, which is used for grain bags, is imported from India at from £18 to £0 per ton. This makes the price of bagged grain considerably higher than if jute could be had in Russia. Experiments were made in its cultivation on the Dnieper and in Caucasia. which were perfectly successful. The grain traders now demand that jute be acclimatized in all the water regions of Russia at the expense and by the encourage ment of the Government

Grashdanin of St. Petersburg thinks that the Gover ment should make stronger efforts to suppress the Koolacks ("fista," men of vielence, unscrupulous traders) than it makes to provide bread for the famishing peasantry. It clies numerous facts to show that in many places the Koolacks have started rumors of bad crops in order to raise the prices of grain, of which they had large stores to sell. The Koolacks charge the reduced by the extortions of the Koolacks that they are now giad to find work as common laborers in the fields which they owned only three or four years ago, which have since become the property of the extertioninta. Large stretches of land are lying waste because th ista Large stretches of land are lying waste because the Koolacks have reduced their owners to penury, and forced them to leave their homesteads. Reproducing these reports from the Grandania, a liberal publication of Noscow says: "What about the Jewa Frince Mestchersky? They would never carry on their trade in the manner our own Russian Koolacks do. They would not start false rumors of bad crops, for the simple reason that they know that such rumors would injure their trade in the foreign markets more that bandmen to abandon their lands, because they are to wise to "kill the goose which lays gold eggs." You call for war against the Koolacks and against the Jews while the trade of the latter is just the opposition to the un scrupulous and destructive trade of the former. Where is your consistency, Prince Mestcherally P

and disaster. That he sentleman whose vestranges and destructive trade of the former. Where it your consistency, Frince Meatchersky?"

The Ministry of the Interior has reduced the monopoly of drugs interior has reduced the monopoly of drugs interior has reduced the monopoly of drugs interior in the lands of licensed apolitecties. It was found that the manufacturers and whoesald deairer in drugs can sell many articles much energy than the pharmacies. The latter are now altered to sell only such drugs as require skiful preparation in small quantities, and can easily spoil or be adulterated. All other drugs can be sold by dealers who need not have a pharmaceutical idense.

A new kind of stamps with soon be introduced in the potal integrable service of Russia with a view to securious that the sonce put upon a letter. When used we are taken of the envelope it leaves an indesible impression upon the spot where it was attached, so that if a new stamp is put upon the same spot the impression of the first siamp can be seen through it.

An encounter between the soldiers of the 103d Petrosavodskiy regiment encamped four versta from the city of throdes, and the persuase of the subtroisa villages come to gather the bullers, which is worth about twenty kapocas, keeps a person in food for a whole day, while its worth about twenty kapocas, keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas, keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas, keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas, keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas, keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas keeps a person in food for a whole day, while worth about twenty kapocas keeps a person in food for a whole day, while the control in our distribution of last fall is less only the prop

NONE LIKE HER ANYWHERE

PECULIARITIES OF THE NEW SANDY HOOK LIGHTSHIP.

The First Revolving Light Affort in This Country, But it is English and May Not Work-Juck's Marvellous Forcessie, Lying at a pier in the yard of the United States Lighthouse Board on Staten Island in one of the most interesting little ships in the world, the new lightship that is to replace the old red hulk that has been bobbing and Speaking of the fal ing of the large Russian rivers, rolling about for years on the Sandy Hook bar to mark the channel into the harbor. She is

> know something more about her than can be seen from the pier.
>
> There is a bull painted red, as the old one was, that is 112 feet long and about 29 feet broad, but it stands much higher out of water than an ordinary cargo vessel of the same size would do, even when not loaded. There are two double masts, the sticks of each pair being about two feet apart, and Ermly fasts ened together at the top by crossbeams. The larger memter of each double must projects several feet above the other member, and there from the mast of any other kind of ship that might be anchored off there.

especially interesting to scalaring people, but

no one could look at her without wan ing to

But it is when one goes on board with a little knowledge of nautical affairs that the boat becomes unusually interesting. First, there is a little steam engine that is placed there solely to work a valve. The new lightship has got two big steam bollers and a twelve-inch foghorn, and whenev r the weather comes on so thick that the crew cannot see the point of Sandy Hook that horn will be started a bellowing in a way to make miserable the natives from Seabright to Rockaway Beach.

Another new feature is a revolving light. No other lightship in America has a light of this kind, and the experts who are putting one on this ship are not sure it will work. The lanterns on this lightship consist of glass cases that fit around the mast and contain a circle of lamps the combined rays of which would Illuminate the entire horizon with ordinary minimate the children britan with ordinary one of her two lanters will be arranged. Interest the relievors are so arranged that the rays of each set of three lanns are thrown out in a single team, leaving a list that the rays of each set of three lanns as the thrown out in a single team, leaving a list of the control of the single team. This lamp is so hings each the three is crew on the single provided to make it revolve, in which we had the control of the single provided to make it revolve, in which the revolving of the lamp will show red flashes to the marrier looking for port at night. In a bitzeria, according to the officers, it is not unlikely to ice up and cease to turn. The machinery is of itritish invention, and way purchased for trial in 1833, but was never before the control of t

THOSE KANSAS MORTGAGES,

A Kansas Man Defends the Statements of Benntor Peffer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Permit me to answer Col. A. A. Harris of this city, who through the columns of THE BUN, has assumed the responsibility of attacking the statements made by Senator Peffer at Cooper Union, New York, relative to the mortgage indebtedness of Kansas denouncing them as false and asserting that the lands in this State are mortgaged for no more than one-third of their real value. Senator Peffer asserts that the farms of Kansas are mortgaged to nearly their full assessed value, and as lands in this State are rarely listed for more than one-fourth of their real value the Colonel proves to be more "a prophet of ruin and disaster" than the gentleman whose veracity and honesty he so incentously questions. By thus flying off at a tangent the worthy